

ABSTRACT

Prunus persica

A new and distinct variety of peach tree which is somewhat similar to the "Island King" peach tree (US Plant Pat. No. 9199) from which it is a sport, but from which it is distinguished by producing a later ripening fruit which are mature approximately ten to fourteen days after the fruit produced by the "Island King" peach tree.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW VARIETY

The present invention refers to a new variety of peach tree which will hereinafter be denominated as the "Island Prince" peach tree which produces clingstone fruit which are mature for commercial harvesting and shipment approximately May 8-10 in a normal growing year in the San Joaquin Valley of Central California as an early fresh market peach with a good red blush coloration.

In the development of new commercial varieties of fruit specific characteristics places a premium on those varieties which are early or late maturing in the growing season. However, many such varieties have small size, lack of flavor, or coloration. In some instances there are other undesirable characteristics that decrease the commercial success. In order for a fruit to be a commercial success it must possess those characteristics of good size, good color, and good flavor. At the same time the date of maturity must be separate or different than other similar fruit. This new invention meets all of the aforementioned criteria and therefore is of commercial appeal to the consumer.

ORIGIN AND ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The present variety of peach tree was discovered by the inventor in his 4-acre orchard of "Island King" peach trees (Plant Patent 9199) which is located near Kingsburg, California. The inventor discovered it as a sport of the "Island King" peach tree in 1997. The new variety was first asexually reproduced by the inventor in 1997 by bud grafting two trees on Nemaguard Rootstock in the orchard of origin. The asexually reproduced trees first bore fruit of the new variety in May 1998. The inventor carefully compared the asexually reproduced trees with the parent sport, including the fruit thereof and the parent as well as the progeny are in all respects identical.